

00:02:13 Either way, we went through a great deal together,
00:02:34 Our families go back a long way.
00:03:05 I'll have him call you.
00:03:52 - Okay. - I'd like to make
00:03:54 the most of the opportunities offered here.
00:03:56 With a firm as impressive as this, I'd be extremely motivated
00:03:58 to deliver my very best each and every day.
00:04:22 Outstanding lineage, Mr. Schoenberg.
00:04:31 Set up my own law firm, and it didn't pay off, you know.
00:04:34 Working for yourself isn't all it's hyped up to be.
00:04:45 Well, let's give it a go, Mr. Schoenberg.
00:05:06 My apologies, Mrs. Altmann. It was gridlock on Wilshire.
00:05:15 So, what do you know about art restitution?
00:05:24 Have some strudel. I made it specially for you.
00:06:58 They're redrafting the art restitution laws.
00:07:07 My sister finally moves in with me.
00:07:44 My uncle commissioned Gustav Klimt to paint her.
00:07:49 That's quite a painting.
00:07:54 She was taken off the walls of our home by the Nazis,
00:08:09 You think that's what this is about?
00:08:38 I bored you to tears tonight.
00:09:39 "The Austrian government has decided
00:09:41 "they will hold on to the Klimt portrait of your aunt
00:09:43 "and four other Klimts which they insist
00:09:45 "were bequeathed to the gallery in her will,
00:09:47 "a fact which they claim as incontestable.
00:09:50 "The will itself...

00:09:53 "I have not seen...

00:09:56 "despite my persistent attempts to do so.

00:10:22 Everybody here looks as if they're having nervous breakdowns.

00:10:27 I was up till 3:00 a.m. I did a little research for you.

00:10:30 Get someone on the ground in Vienna.

00:11:02 They're gonna cost you, but without them it's a nonstarter.

00:11:05 No, no, all I have is my shop, my bungalow and a little money

00:11:26 You are quite rude, you're a little uncouth,

00:11:29 and you are completely disinterested in the past.

00:11:50 They're filthy.

00:12:59 - I'll close the shop only when I croak. - Big news.

00:13:11 You're chomping at the bite all of a sudden.

00:13:24 - What are you talking about? - Elegant descendant...

00:13:26 from one of the great Viennese families.

00:13:33 I love your enthusiasm, and, after all, I'm not a spring chicken.

00:13:39 But I'm afraid, in your haste, there's been a misunderstanding.

00:13:53 and they forced me to abandon

00:13:56 the people and the places that I loved.

00:14:17 and now you're all over me like a rash... what happened?

00:15:59 One day, you'll have to stop being so timid.

00:17:00 Well, she said to do it in honor...

00:17:02 - ...of your great-grandparents. - Siegmund and Malvina.

00:17:21 Yes, but I want to buy perfume and cognac in duty-free.

00:19:01 You know, the postcard doesn't do her justice.

00:20:54 a man walked up to me in a supermarket and spat in my face.

00:20:58 He called me a traitor.

00:21:17 but now it's turning into a Pandora's box.

00:21:20 They don't want to give away their treasures.

00:21:26 and I might just be able to help you get over some of them.

00:21:29 What's in it for you? What's your motive?

00:21:33 Let's just say it's a very particular brand of patriotism.

00:21:39 I think I will treat us to another round of drinks.

00:23:17 Let us hope that this memorable evening

00:23:20 is a harbinger of happier days.

00:24:08 You are headstrong and inquiring.

00:24:38 Hitler has made an empty promise about Austrian sovereignty.

00:26:07 has decided your case is worthy of a review,

00:26:27 You must trust that all due procedures will be followed.

00:28:41 A national icon. Adele has become part of the country's psyche.

00:29:11 Look at my face. Does it resemble me?

00:29:26 whether you will have to amuse yourself with trivialities.

00:29:39 One of our most famous paintings. A wonderful example of Austria's heritage.

00:30:44 The government has announced that citizens

00:30:48 may not leave the country without authorization.

00:30:52 These new regulations will be enforced immediately.

00:32:25 The passport office will close at 2 p.m. until further notice.

00:33:25 Jewish pigs. Serves you right.

00:34:40 Is that what it's called?

00:34:47 Your brother's sugar company is guilty of tax evasion

00:34:50 amounting to one million Reichsmark.

00:34:53 His assets have been frozen until the money is paid.

00:34:58 - From now on, you are under house arrest. - My uncle is a law-abiding citizen.

00:36:14 Everything from the museum records prior to 1972

00:37:00 Quite a treasure trove of information.

00:37:03 Hubertus and I were up all night going over the file.

00:37:05 Well, I'm glad to see you're getting on so well together.

00:37:14 Hanging on by my fingernails.

00:37:22 My Uncle Ferdinand was devastated.

00:37:38 "to bequeath my portrait

00:37:53 One step at a time, Maria.

00:38:05 Let's tell the story chronologically.

00:38:31 Did you know, for instance, that one of your uncle's favorite paintings,

00:38:51 came to adorn the neck of Emmy Goering,

00:38:58 The Nazis themselves were not so keen on the Klimts.

00:39:00 They were, after all, a bit too degenerate for their taste.

00:39:02 But the paintings caught the eye of someone

00:39:04 with a more prescient and refined appreciation of art,

00:39:18 like your aunt's name and her Jewish provenance, of course.

00:39:32 No. You had to be eradicated from history.

00:40:05 Randy, why don't you show Maria our trump card?

00:40:17 The paintings weren't hers to give away.

00:40:24 It's not legally binding.

00:40:56 The problem is it's imperative that we speak...

00:41:15 There's quite a bit of new information

00:41:16 that the restitution committee needs to be aware of

00:41:18 before they come to any sort of decision on the Bloch-Bauer case.

00:41:22 Yes, it's all in here. I've made some observations

00:41:23 in the margins. Excuse my handwriting.

00:41:39 You're a man of refined taste, Mr. Wran.

00:42:21 Quite a turnout.

00:42:23 They're putting on a very good show.

00:42:57 Our maid went into my mother's wardrobe

00:43:16 and other people, and stripped the place.

00:43:37 Restitution.

00:44:08 At the very least, we should be reunited with what is rightfully ours.

00:44:31 but we implore you, not the portraits.

00:44:47 Will you excuse me? I think my lawyer's getting a trifle nervous.

00:45:15 But why don't you let the past be the past?

00:46:14 He's been paid to smuggle us across.

00:47:16 they won't let my father fetch a doctor

00:53:06 Their baritone has fallen ill.

00:53:27 Due to unforeseen circumstances, your departure has been delayed.

00:53:33 Our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

00:55:19 Dr. Dreimann here is our principal attorney on this very complicated case.

00:55:34 after much deliberation,

00:56:10 And that's ignor... And that's ignoring the fact

00:56:12 that there was a deliberate cover-up to conceal the manner

00:56:14 in which the paintings ended up in the gallery.

00:56:20 It's not a legally binding will.

00:56:28 The looting of her home, the murder of her people.

00:57:25 What-what about arbitration... here in Vienna?

00:58:04 - Just checking on you. - Come in. Sit down.

00:58:15 with a lot of grim shits.

00:58:28 Most of them threw flowers and welcomed the Nazis with open arms,

00:58:58 we will stop to pay our respects

00:59:00 at the Holocaust Memorial.

00:59:02 That way, we will not have come here in vain.

00:59:30 They had a cherry blossom tree in the garden,

00:59:36 Your mother reminds me of her.

01:00:51 he would welcome us home with an aria.

01:03:13 And hello to you, too. What are you babbling about?

01:03:30 I did, but I found a loophole. Three conditions.

01:03:33 When the property's taken in violation of international law.

01:03:53 Congratulations... you meet 'em. You can sue.

01:04:11 It's a long shot.

01:04:13 For starters, there's no precedent.

01:04:24 Since when have we been paying you to have feelings?

01:04:53 It's commonly known as an ultimatum, Randy.

01:04:57 I humored you.

01:04:58 "Let him go to Europe," I thought, "let him flex his muscles."

01:05:08 There's no enforcement mechanism between the U.S. and Austria.

01:05:14 No more extracurricular stuff,

01:05:28 Hi. I'm here to file a lawsuit against the Austrian government.

01:05:32 I've filled in the summons and that's the complaint.

01:05:51 Come on, come on, come on, come on... double time.

01:05:53 Is Consul Brandstetter around?

01:05:57 that Mrs. Altmann and Randy Schoenberg dropped by.

01:06:19 charging ahead like a... like a mad steamroller.

01:06:24 I can't keep up with you. Stop!

01:06:42 Say that again with conviction.

01:06:43 Don't be impertinent.

01:07:05 - Oh, great. Great. - ...to keep us afloat for a few months.

01:07:48 which is a hotshot Jewish law firm.

01:07:53 They're trying to dismiss the case on procedural grounds,

01:08:20 That's very flattering.

01:08:25 I hope we make your visit worthwhile.

01:08:49 the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act was passed in 1976,

01:08:59 cannot be retroactively applied, and I'm bewildered

01:09:17 Mrs. Altmann, but from now on would you mind

01:09:20 There are certain procedures which must be adhered to in a courtroom.

01:09:34 Um, i-if... if I may?

01:09:38 Despite the fact that actions

01:09:39 accruing before 1976 are rarer, they very much exist.

01:09:47 will prove to be a riveting read.

01:09:49 Let's adjourn for ten minutes.

01:09:52 Anything else would be a violation of its national sovereignty.

01:09:59 without resorting to American courts

01:10:03 I applaud Mr. Gould's concern for the American taxpayer,

01:10:19 The plaintiff has adequately proven

01:10:21 that the FSIA can apply to pre-1976 events.

01:10:26 Also, due to prohibitive costs,

01:10:28 this court has decided that Austria provides

01:10:30 an inadequate forum for resolution of plaintiffs claim.

01:10:33 - Your Honor... - Defendant's motion to dismiss is denied.

01:10:42 First hurdle down.

01:10:49 This is a setback, absolutely...

01:11:00 I would urge you to consider mediation.

01:11:07 to the Supreme Court, if we have to.

01:11:58 - Oh... - Which is why...

01:12:01 We're jumping the gun a little here, Mr. Lauder.

01:12:11 Now, he's been a formidable ally...

01:12:16 he's not cut out for the Supreme Court, Mrs. Altmann.

01:12:19 Getting you through the complex appeal process

01:12:21 is one thing, but Washington?

01:12:42 You can ask him to take a hike.

01:12:59 - Should I go deeper with the voice? - Sweetie, my water broke.

01:13:02 - Deeper with the voice... What? - My water just broke.

01:15:46 Mr. Chief Justice, and may it please the court,

01:15:49 I'll keep my arguments succinct, sir.

01:17:00 we believe applying the FSIA is not impermissibly retroactive.

01:17:13 "When should it exercise jurisdiction

01:17:15 for a particular purpose?"

01:17:42 We're very sensitive

01:17:44 to the government's concerns, Mr. Chief Justice,

01:17:46 uh, in the can of worms argument.

01:17:49 But each country is different and poses different conditions,

01:17:51 unlike, say, Cuba, in Austria's case,

01:17:53 there's a treaty, so there's no dispute as to what type

01:17:55 of law could apply.

01:18:07 The defendants in this case

01:18:09 have continuously tried to frustrate our attempts,

01:18:13 threatening an Armageddon in international relations,

01:18:15 but let's put things into perspective here.

01:19:03 Takes about three months for the verdict to come through,

01:20:21 That's why I ignored all the terrible bits.

01:20:38 She may not live long enough to see the outcome, and we can't afford it.

01:20:49 As a gesture of reconciliation,

01:21:04 on the question of compensation.

01:21:06 I'm afraid we are not budging, and that is final.

01:21:16 and we will fight you till the end before we concede on this.

01:21:27 Arbitration in Vienna.

01:21:30 - Randy? - We choose...

01:21:32 one of the arbitrators, you choose the other, the third is neutral.

01:22:47 Well, the feeling is mutual, but we don't have a choice.

01:23:06 What I'm saying, Randy, is that, as of this moment,

01:23:09 I no longer require your services.

01:23:16 I've given everything that I have. I am in so much debt.

01:23:22 and you have the nerve to...

01:24:39 Arbitration may be affordable,

01:26:05 The Austrian government has provided

01:26:07 its case in writing for our perusal.

01:26:11 Mr. Schoenberg, you, too, were offered the opportunity

01:26:14 to do so, but you have opted

01:26:16 to present the introductory points

01:26:18 of your argument orally, as well.

01:26:21 The floor is yours.

01:27:14 but... our families, and the roots we share,

01:27:18 are situated in the culture of this very city.

01:27:38 but also another, which recognizes the injustices

01:27:44 and, against all odds, seeks to rectify it.

01:27:52 A string of events and misdeeds

01:27:54 point to the incontestable fact

01:28:07 So in its own way, ladies and gentlemen, this is a moment in history,

01:28:11 a moment in which the past is asking something of the present.

01:28:19 People dehumanized other people,

01:28:22 persecuted them,

01:28:26 decimating entire families.

01:29:13 When I was a small boy, I looked up to him.

01:29:29 A passionate follower of the Third Reich.

01:30:30 we have reached our final verdict.

01:30:43 should be returned to her niece...

01:31:42 entreat you...

01:32:05 and all along, you have thwarted me